A Sad and Terrible RELATION
Of two Dreadful

Earth-quakes

That happened in
England and at *Famasa.*

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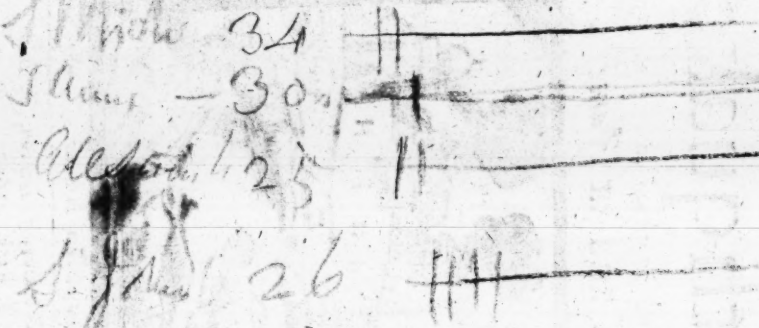

A Sad and Terrible Relation
Of Two Dreadful

Earth-quakes

The one happening in

ENGLAND,

Especially at *London* and *Cambridge*,
On the 8*th.* of *September*, and the other at

JAMACO,

In the *WEST-INDIES*,
On the 7*th.* of *July*, 1692.

With their Dreadful Effects; but more especially the great Damage the latter did at *Port-Royal*, and in divers other places of *Jamaca*, to the Destruction of many People and Buildings; with the Destruction of the *Swan* Frigat, by the Shaking and Opening of the Earth, and Inundation of Water.

ALSO, An Account of the Defeat of the *French* then Landed in *Jamaca*, the destroying their Ships and Men, *&c.*

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A Sad and Terrible

RELATION

Of Two Dreadful

Earth-quakes.

GReat and Terrible are the Wonderful Works of God in his Creation, and yet more amazing and ſtupendious, the Effects of them relating to the power and force he Arms the Elements withal, which demonſtrates his Almightineſs, and the weakneſs of our greateſt Strength and Force; when he deſigns to baffle and overthrow them, even the Winds, the Sea, the Fire and the Aire, are In-

ſtruments of Might in his hand; and when he raiſes them up, who can ſtand before them? The Holy Scripture tells us, *The Earth trembles at his preſence, and the foundations thereof are ſhaken; the Hills melt, and the Mountains ſmoak at his touch; he drys up the Deep with his looks, and at his Rebuke the Heavens flee away, and are rolled up together like a Scrowl.*

Theſe things ſhould ſtrike fear and awe into the hearts of Men, and make them tremble at ſo great a Majeſty; and amongſt all theſe, *Earthquakes* are very terrible and amazing; for how can we but tremble, when we feel the Frame of the Earth ſhake under us, the Foundations of the Round World totter, ſo that we know not in the Conſternation and Confuſion, whither to fly for ſafety!

This happens generally in *Earthquakes*, of which we in our Age have had many ſad Inſtances; people have been ſhaken out of their Habitations,

or

or buried in the Rubbiſh, ſome ſwallowed up alive in the gaping breaches of the Earth; and indeed, all Contingencies of this nature have been very fearful and amazing: *England*, as many Hiſtories make mention, has not been free at ſundry times from theſe ſtrange Convulſions, and a trembling of it was felt near a Year ſince, here and in *Ireland* at one and the ſame time: *Naples* and *Lima* have lately had their ſhare, the one much ſhattered, and the other quite demoliſhed: But to leave what has been a few Years paſt, we come now to the preſent lamentable Subject of this Paper.

After what has been ſaid relating to *Earth-quakes*, I ſhall inſtance thoſe that have happened very lately; and becauſe it is neareſt and moſt in Memory, I ſhall firſt inſtance that which happened in *England* on the 8*th.* of *September*, the which though it did

not any damage as yet heard of, was very terrible and amazing, because not frequent in these parts.

It happened after much Rain, in the former part of the Year, to be a very hot and dry Season in *August* and the beginning of *September*, and was on the day this happened, to be the first considerable Rain that had intervened, when between One and Two in the Afternoon it Raining hard, and being very Cloudy Weather, all on a sudden the Houses in *London*, *Westminster*, *Wapping*, *Southwark*, and many Miles distant, and (as we since have heard) almost throughout *England*, began to Rock and Dance as it were, to the great startling and amazement of the Inhabitants, some imagining the Foundations were sinking, others that they were possessed with Dizziness, or *Vertigo*, their heads by the unexpected motion, swiming with an unusual kind of Giddyness; Some conjectured it the sudden blowing

ing up of Powder-Mills near *London*; however, though the Cauſe was not in ſuch a ſurprize preſently known, yet the Stools, Chairs, Pewter, and other Houſhold Utenſils, moving, and as it were, taking an unuſual Dance: The Streets were filled with people that left their Houſes, ſome with Children in their Arms, others with Children following and crying after them; and although it gave but three Shakes, and thoſe in about a Minutes ſpace, yet ſo great was the Conſternation, the people fearing a worſe Effect, that their diſturbance and diſorder continued a long time. Some old decayed Houſes were a little ſhattered by the Shock, but we hear not of any that totally fell: Nor had it only its effects on Land, but on the Water, the River of *Thames* toſſing at that time, as if it had been a great Tempeſt, to the Admiration of thoſe that were paſſing it; and a ſtrange Murmuring in the Aire was heard, as of a ſudden Whirl-

wind;

wind; and those that came for many Miles from the adjacent parts, report, that its Effects there were very fearful and surprizing. We have a particular Account its Effects were felt at *Shierness*, *Portsmouth*, and many other places, but more sensibly at *Cambridge*, where the Colledge-Halls, and other Famous Structures of the University Rocked and Tottered exceedingly, as well as the meaner Buildings, whilst the affrighted Students and other Inhabitants, run out trembling, as in other places; though, through Gods wonderful Mercy, it only Frighted, without occasioning any extraordinary Damage, as usually attends *Earthquakes*; for which *Let us Praise and Magnifie his Holy Name, since other Nations have not been so preserved, as in the following Account will more evidently appear.*

Few, we believe, there are in *England*, but have heard of the Famous Iſland of *Famaco*, taken by the *Engliſh* from the *Spaniards*, in their Expedition to the *Weſt-Indies*, 1653. an Iſland then very Fruitful, but ſince more plentifully improved, but more eſpecially it has been noted for the Terrible *Earth-quake* lately happening there: ſome ſigns of an *Earth-quake* appeared by the paleneſs of the *Sun* at ſetting, dullneſs of the *ſtars* in the Night, thickneſs and groſsneſs of the Aire, the unuſual murmuring of the Winds, and huge ſwelling of the Sea; the which on the *7th.* of *July* about Noon, broke out by the Harbour ſide in *Port-Royal*, and did great Damage upon the Iſland, throwing down there many Houſes, but on the Harbour divers of the Houſes ſunk down, from three to five Fathom, in a very ſhort ſpace, computed at no more than a Minute: And what was yet more

more fearful, in the Streets next the Wharf, the Ground opened, with fearful Gapings, out of which iſſued ſuch abundance of Water, that divers of the Inhabitants were drowned in the Flood, which came out like a mighty Deluge, the Breach being very wide and deep: The other part of the Town that eſcaped the Water, was very much ſhattered, ſo that the people were forced to fly from them, ſome being much Wounded by the falling Ruins, and ſome are ſuppoſed to have periſhed in them; but thoſe who had loſt their Habitations and eſcaped, were taken care of by order of the Magiſtrates, who took great care for their ſafety and ſubſiſtance,

The

The *Swan Frigat* that was Careening on the Wharf, and not able to get off, was driven in among the ruined Buildings, and Stones of the VVorks where ſhe was, beaten to pieces, and the trembling of the Earth continued for a long time; the Sea ſeemed to Swell more than uſual, and boile up, as being extraordinarily Agitated.

During this Diſorder in the Iſland, it happened that divers *French* Veſſels came in to the Northward, and Landed about Three Hundred Men, doing ſome little Damage: whereupon their Majeſties Ship the *Guernſey*, being a Man of VVar, and ſome Sloops, took a Compaſs to come in with them, and fell ſo ſucceſsfully upon them, that having battered the *French* Veſſels a while, they ſet them on Fire, and ſo warily plyed thoſe on the Land, that they were all cut off, except Eighteen that got off

off in a Shallop and narrowly escaped the fury of our Men, who in this Action got some considerable Booty: So that as our people suffered by the *Earth-quake*, against which there is no contending, or at least preventing, in humane power or possibility, the *French* bore a part in this, or a more shameful Misfortune, by being overthrown with a small number, when they had, no doubt, promised themselves great things from this attempt, as being at great Charge to enterprize it; and indeed, it happened at such a time as might have promised them better success than they met withal; So leaving them to their deserved Fate, we come to make some Remarks upon the *Earth-quake*.

The extraordinary Fury that did this Execution, we find was so sudden and unexpected, that divers people more than did, must have perished in the Waters, and the Ruins

ins of the tottering Houſes, that could not preſently be known who they were; for by the report of ſeveral that were Spectators of their lamentable Misfortune, the blowing up was ſo ſwift, as if it had been a Train of Powder laid under ſome mighty Pile of Buildings; yet they thought in that combuſtible Confuſion, they heard the Cry of the miſerable people that periſhed; but as ſoon as the Terror and Conſternation was over, all diligence and care was uſed to ſave and ſuccour thoſe that had got off, and the people every where ſhewed their extraordinary Charity towards them, and commiſerated their ſufferings; and the Enemy, as you have heard, who came to make advantage and inſult over their Miſeries in this great Calamity, not only loſt his expectation, but was utterly Routed; ſo that theſe diſtreſſed people in the midſt of danger, found Mercy and Deliverance.

Theſe

These kind of *Earth-quakes* are in themselves very Terrible, and are occasioned by an Exhalation of Hot and Cold that is enclosed in the Caves of the Earth, strugling there to find passage and break forth, and forces out violently when it comes into so narrow a passage that it cannot find wideness enough to *breathe*, being more violent in shaking the Earth, sometimes rending and cleaving it, at other times casting up Earth a great height into the Aire, and sometimes it causeth it to sink to great depths, as in the present case.

FINIS.